

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer system, comprising:

a first computer;

a plurality of storage systems ~~connect~~coupled to the first computer over a network; and

a second computer ~~connect~~coupled to the first computer and the plurality of storage systems,

_____ wherein the first computer sends a request to the second computer,

_____ wherein the second computer ~~has~~includes information about the plurality of storage systems, selects, in response to a ~~the~~ request from the first computer, one of the plurality of storage systems meeting the request based on the information, and transmits a command to the selected one of the plurality of storage systems for creating a ~~storage-area-logical volume which is constructed on a physical disk device of the one of the plurality of storage systems~~ for use by the first computer based on the request of the first computer,

_____ wherein

_____ the one of the plurality of storage systems creates the ~~storage-area-logical volume~~ meeting the request of the first computer in accordance with the command, and forwards a creation completion notice to the second computer,

_____ wherein

_____ after receiving the notice, the second computer notifies the first computer of path information of an access path from the first computer to for the storage area logical volume in the one of the plurality of storage systems created by the one of the plurality of storage systems.

2. (Currently Amended) A computer system according to claim 1,

_____ wherein the

_____ information about the plurality of storage systems is information about a security level of each of the plurality of storage systems,

_____ wherein

_____ the request ~~of sent~~ by the first computer to the second computer is a request for creating the ~~storage area~~ logical volume which makes it possible to secure the a high security level ~~to be high~~.

3. (Currently Amended) A computer system according to claim 2,

_____ wherein each of the plurality of storage systems has an interface device coupled to the network for communicating with the first computer via the network,

wherein the information about the security level is information about whether or not ~~at the interface~~ device in each of the storage systems ~~used for connection with the network can execute an a~~ ciphered communication with the first computer by using IPSec process,

_____ wherein

_____the high security level means that the interface device in the corresponding storage system is capable of the ciphered communication by using IPSec process.

4. (Currently Amended) A computer system according to claim 3,
_____ wherein the second computer selects a first storage system, which has a first interface device that can execute a ciphered communication with the first computer by using IPSec process, of the plurality of storage systems if the request indicates to create a first logical volume with which the first computer can communicate with the high security level, and sends a first command to the first storage system,

wherein the first command is a command for interrelating the storage-area-first logical volume to be created to the first interface device capable of ciphered communication by using the IPSec process located in the first storage system,

_____ wherein

_____in accordance with the first command, the first storage system interrelates the created storage-area-first logical volume to the first interface device capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPSec process,

_____ wherein

_____the second computer notifies the first computer of address information as the path information in the network assigned to the first interface device capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPSec process.

5. (Currently Amended) A computer system according to claim 3,
_____ wherein the second computer selects a first storage system, which has a first interface device and a second interface device each of which can execute a ciphered communication with the first computer by using IPsec process, of the plurality of storage systems if the request indicates to create a first logical volume with which the first computer can communicate with the high security level, and sends a first command to the first storage system,

wherein the first command is a command for interrelating the ~~storage-area~~ first logical volume to the first and second interface devices capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPsec process ~~plurally found located in the first storage system,~~

_____ wherein

_____ in accordance with the first command, the first storage system interrelates the created ~~storage-area~~ first logical volume to the first and second interface device capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPsec process,

_____ wherein

_____ the second computer notifies the first computer of address information as the path information in the network assigned to each of the first and second interface devices capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPsec process.

6. (Currently Amended) A computer system according to claim 5,
_____ wherein

_____the second computer further includes second information about ~~the~~ first computer (~~hereinafter, "second information"~~) ~~connect~~coupled to the network that can use the ~~storage area~~ first logical volume in the first storage system,

_____wherein

_____the computer issues a request for forwarding, ~~to the second computer,~~
information about the ~~storage area~~ available therefor, and

_____wherein

_____based on the second information, the second computer transmits, to the first computer having issued the ~~forwarding~~ request, the path information to the ~~storage area~~ first logical volume ~~in the storage area~~ that is available for the first computer.

7. (Currently Amended) A computer system according to claim 6,
_____wherein, _____after receiving the notice from the one of the plurality of storage systems, the second computer registers, with the second information, information about the first computer having requested creation of the ~~storage area~~ logical volume when notifying the first computer of the path information about the ~~storage area~~ logical volume created in the one of the plurality of storage systems.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer system according to claim 1,
_____wherein, _____the information about the plurality of storage systems is information about the security level of each of the plurality of the storage systems and the first computer,

_____ wherein

_____the request of the first computer is a request for creating the ~~storage~~
~~area~~logical volume,

_____ wherein

_____the second computer checks the security level of the first computer based on
the information, selects a first storage system of the plurality of storage systems
meeting the security level of the first computer based on the information, and
commands the first storage system to create the ~~storage area~~logical volume
depending on the security level of the first computer.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer system according to claim 8,

_____ wherein the first computer and each of the plurality of storage systems have
an interface device coupled to the network for communicating with each other via the
network,

wherein the information about the security level is information about whether
or not ~~at the interface device in each of the storage systems~~ and the first computer
~~used for connection with the network can execute an~~ ciphered communication by
using an IPSec process,

_____ wherein

_____when the security level of the first computer is in a level ~~having that the first~~
computer has a first interface device which can execute ciphered communication by
using the device capable of the IPSec process, the second computer selects the first

storage system which has a second interface device which can execute ciphered communication by using the IPSec process, and commands the first storage system to interrelate the command is a command for interrelating the storage area logical volume to the second interface device capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPSec process out of others located in the first storage system.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer system according to claim 1,
_____ wherein
_____ the information about the storage system is information about whether or not
an interface device device, which each of in the plurality of storage systems has,
and used for connection coupling with the network can execute ciphered
communication by using an IPSec process,
_____ wherein
_____ the request of the first computer is a request for creating the storage
arealogical volume,
_____ wherein
_____ based on the request for creating the storage arealogical volume, the second
computer selects a first storage system of the plurality of storage systems that has a
first interface device which can execute the ciphered communication by using the
IPSec process, and transmits a command to the first storage system for creating the
storage area logical volume interrelating related to the first interface device capable

of the ciphered communication by using the IPSec process located in the first
storage system,

_____ wherein

_____ in accordance with the command, the first storage system creates the logical
volume and interrelates the created storage-area-logical volume to the first interface
device capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPSec process,

_____ wherein

_____ the second computer notifies the first computer of address information as the
path information in the network assigned to the first interface device capable of the
ciphered communication by using the IPSec process.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer system according to claim 1,

_____ wherein

_____ the information about the storage system is information about whether or not
an interface device, which each of the plurality of in the storage systems has, and
used for ~~connection~~ coupling with the network can execute ciphered communication
by using an IPSec process,

_____ wherein

_____ the request of the first computer is a request for creating the storage
area-logical volume,

_____ wherein

_____based on the request for creating the ~~storage area~~logical volume, the second computer selects a first storage system of the plurality of storage systems which has a first interface device and a second interface device each of which can execute the ciphered communication by using IPSec process, and transmits a command to the first storage system for creating the ~~storage area~~logical volume,

_____wherein

_____in accordance with the command, the first storage system creates the logical volume, and interrelates the created ~~storage area~~logical volume to the first and second interface devices capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPSec process~~plurally found~~,

_____wherein

_____the second computer notifies the first computer of address information as the path information in the network assigned to each of the first and second interface devices capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPSec process.

12. (Currently Amended) A computer according to claim 1,

_____wherein

_____the information about the storage system is information about whether or not an interface device, in which each of the plurality of storage systems has, and used for connection~~coupling~~ with the network can execute ciphered communication by using an IPSec process,

_____wherein

_____the request of the first computer is a request for creating the ~~storage~~
~~area~~logical volume,

_____wherein

_____based on the request for creating the ~~storage area~~logical volume, the second
computer selects a first storage system which has a first interface device which can
execute the ciphered communication by using the IPSec process and has a second
interface device which cannot execute the ciphered communication, and transmits a
command to the first storage system for creating the ~~storage area~~logical volume,

_____wherein

_____in accordance with the command, the first storage system creates the logical
volume and interrelates the created ~~storage area~~logical volume to the first interface
device capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPSec process and to
the second interface device incapable of the ciphered communication~~the IPSec~~
process,

_____wherein

_____the second computer notifies the first computer of address information as the
path information in the network assigned to the first interface device ~~capable of the~~
~~IPSec process~~ and address information in the network assigned to the second
interface device ~~incapable of the IPSec process~~.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer system according to claim 12,

_____wherein

_____the first computer selects ~~a piece one of~~ address included in the address information ~~plurally~~ received from the second computer to make access to the ~~storage area~~ logical volume ~~of in~~ the first storage system.

14. (Currently Amended) A computer system according to claim 13,
_____wherein
_____when the first computer is in need of the high security level for a ~~process~~ accessing to the logical volume in the first storage system, the first computer selects the address information corresponding to ~~the~~ the first interface device capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPSec process to make access to the ~~storage area~~ logical volume in the first storage system.

15. (Currently Amended) A management computer ~~connect~~ coupled to a computer and a plurality of storage systems, comprising:
a control section;
a memory; and
an interface to be ~~connect~~ coupled to a network ~~having a connection and being~~ coupled with the computer and the plurality of storage systems,
_____wherein
_____the memory includes information indicating whether or not ~~a~~ an interface device, which each of the plurality of ~~in the~~ storage systems has, to be

~~connected~~coupled to the network is capable of ciphered communication by using an IPSec process, _____ wherein

_____when the computer makes a request to create a ~~storage-area~~logical volume constructed on a physical disk device in one of the plurality of storage systems over the interface, the control section selects a first storage system which has a first interface device which can execute the ciphered communication by using the IPSec, and transmits, to the first storage system, a command for creating the storage-area logical volume to interrelates and interrelating to the first interface device capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPSec process based on the request, _____ wherein

_____after receiving a completion notice from the first storage system, the management computer is notified-notifies the computer of address information assigned to athe first interface device capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPSec process.

16-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A computer system, comprising:

a first computer;

a storage system to be ~~connected~~coupled with the first computer over a network; and

a second computer to be ~~connect~~coupled to the first computer and the storage system,

_____ wherein the first computer sends a request for creating a logical volume constructed on a physical disk in the storage system to the second computer,

wherein the second computer ~~has~~includes information about whether ~~a each~~ of a plurality of interface devices in the storage system used for ~~connection~~coupling with the network is capable of ciphered communication with the first computer by using an IPSec process, selects~~decides~~, in response to ~~a the~~ request ~~for creating a storage area interrelated to the device capable of the IPSec process of the computer, the which~~ storage system meetsing the request based on the information, and transmits a command to the ~~selected~~decided storage system for creating the logical volume and for interrelating the storage area logical volume used by the first computer to one of the plurality of interface the devices capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPSec process ~~located~~ in the storage system,

_____ wherein

_____the storage system creates the logical volume and interrelates the created ~~storage area logical volume~~ to the one of the plurality of interface devices capable of the ciphered communication by using the IPSec process in accordance with the command, and forwards to the second computer ~~of a creation completion notice,~~

_____ wherein

_____the second computer notifies the first computer of address information in the network assigned to one of the plurality of interface ~~the devices~~ capable of the ciphared communication by using the IPSec process,

_____wherein

_____based on the address information, the first computer makes access to the ~~storage area~~ logical volume in the storage system via the one of the plurality of interface devices capable of the ciphared communication by using the IPSec process.